

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

8:30 a.m.

County Board Room – 3rd Floor – Courthouse

M I N U T E S

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with all Commissioners present. County Administrator Brian C. Berg, Chief Assistant County Attorney Jenny Samarzja, and Senior Administrative Assistant Vicki Reek were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Campbell, seconded by Gross, and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION

By consent agenda, the Board approved execution of an agreement with Tech Tronix to provide services for review, evaluation and development new and revised policies and procedures required by the Minnesota Department of Health for the delegated Food, Pool and Lodging Program.

APPROVAL OF EXEMPT PERMIT FOR RAFFLE FOR BARNESVILLE MN LIONS

By consent agenda, the Board approved an exempt permit for the Barnesville MN Lions to conduct a raffle at a fund raising event April 9, 2015.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens present who wished to address the Board.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

On motion by Gross, seconded by Ingersoll, and unanimously carried, the bills and vouchers were approved for payment.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE – PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Administrator Kathy McKay provided an update regarding the Public Health Department, noting that the six areas of Public Health responsibility include: Assure an adequate public health infrastructure; Promote healthy communities/healthy behaviors; prevent the spread of infectious disease; protect against environmental health hazards; prepare and respond to disasters and assist communities in recovery; and assure quality and accessibility of health services.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

County Engineer David Overbo updated the Board concerning activities in the Highway Department, including plans to pave two projects in 2015 (CSAH 18 and CSAH 52); a Transportation Alternatives Program with the City of Glyndon; working with the local chapter of Towards Zero Death initiative; soil investigation work for the proposed

Correctional Facility; assistance with upgrades at the Landfill; search for a feasible location for a new Highway Shop in the Hawley area; completion of the 5-year Construction Plan; equipment upgrades; work on land surveying services; and conversion to new credit card vendor.

RE-SCHEDULE BID OPENING FOR CSAH 18 AND CSAH 52 PROJECTS

County Engineer David Overbo informed the Board that MNDOT and NDDOT are both letting bids for large projects on the same day as Clay County had planned to let bids for the CSAH 18 and CSAH 52 projects. Mr. Overbo suggested delaying Clay County's bid lettings to April 3rd to allow adequate time for the contractors to bid.

On motion by Campbell, seconded by Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved changing the bid letting date to April 3, 2015 for the CSAH 18 and CSAH 52 projects.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE – SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Director Rhonda Porter provided an overview of the Social Services Department, indicating that the units will be presenting information to the Board concerning their work in the upcoming weeks (Child Protection, On-Going Child/Family Services & Licensing, Adult Services, Disability Services, Financial Assistance, Collections, and Office Services).

REQUEST TO FILL SOCIAL WORKER POSITION (CHILD PROTECTION)

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved filling a Social Worker position in Child Protection due to resignation, and approved backfilling the position if filled from within.

CONTRACT APPROVALS (SOCIAL WORKER AND CASE AIDE) AND EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR 2015-2017

Human Resources Director Darren Brooke requested the Board's approval of Social Worker and Case Aide labor agreement contracts for 2015, 2016, and 2017. The contracts contain cost of living adjustments of 2% for 2015, 2% for 2016, and 3.25% for 2017, as well as an increase in social worker on-call pay to \$4/hour.

On motion by Mongeau, seconded by Ingersoll, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized execution of the above mentioned contracts and associated Memorandum of Understanding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Commissioner Ingersoll attended meetings of the Moorhead Planning Commission and Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health.

Commissioner Gross attended the AMC Legislative Conference and meetings of the Heartland Trail, FM Council of Governments, City of Dilworth Council meeting, and Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus.

Commissioner Campbell attended the AMC Legislative Conference, Personnel Issues Committee meeting, and a meeting concerning \$15 million in potential bonding for the Correctional Facility project

Commissioner Mongeau attended the AMC Legislative Conference, Barnesville City Council meeting, and Buffalo Red River Watershed District meeting.

Commissioner Weyland attended the AMC Legislative Conference and meetings of the Heartland Trail, Personnel Issues Committee, Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus, and a meeting concerning \$15 million in potential bonding for the Correctional Facility project.

FM DIVERSION BUDGET

County Administrator Brian Berg distributed a copy of a letter written by Moorhead City Mayor Williams to the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District Board (BRRWD) seeking their approval of the FM Diversion budget, which to date has not been approved by that entity. It was suggested that the Clay County Board of Commissioners also send a letter to the managers of the BRRWD seeking support of the budget and outlining the importance of its approval.

Commissioner Campbell commented that it is odd that the BRRWD has not approved the budget when some of the funds would be used for completion of the Minnesota Environmental Impact Study (EIS). He also noted that the Diversion Authority has received an application from the BRRWD for a \$1.5-\$1.7 million flood project, and the requested funds would come from the Diversion budget which the BRRWD has not approved. He felt the County Board should send a letter to the BRRWD reiterating the importance of adopting the FM Diversion budget.

Commissioner Mongeau felt it is not appropriate to send a letter to the BRRWD Managers concerning their action toward the budget, in that the County Board appointed competent managers to the BRRWD, and it would be redundant to send a letter pressuring their vote. She felt the BRRWD may want to wait until the EIS is complete.

Commissioner Weyland felt the BRRWD should explain why they have not adopted the budget, and did not feel a letter reiterating the County Board's position would be inappropriate. He also felt a letter should be sent to the Otter Tail County Board concerning a comment made by their representative to the BRRWD which negatively impacts the cooperative nature of the FM Diversion.

Commissioner Campbell commented that the engineers have done their studies of the Oxbow/Hickson/Bakke project and found no impacts to Minnesota, and that is why the Clay County Board approved the budget.

Commissioner Ingersoll inquired as to the effects of the Diversion budget not being approved by the BRRWD. County Administrator Brian Berg stated that steps would be taken to work within the system and move forward in a different manner.

County Administrator Brian Berg felt it is part of the democratic process to contact appointed representatives, asking for their support, and identifying the County Board's position.

Commissioner Campbell moved that the County Board send a letter to the BRRWD Board of Managers seeking approval of the FM Diversion budget. Commissioner Ingersoll seconded the motion which passed with Commissioner Mongeau opposed.

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Board directed that a letter be sent to the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners concerning a negative comment made at a public meeting of the BRRWD by their appointed representative to the BRRWD Board of Managers, which reflected poorly on the Otter Tail County Board and cooperation between the member entities.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Mr. Berg reported that \$130,000 in wind energy tax revenue has been generated for payable 2015.

The University of Minnesota Extension Service has proposed a plan to add trees and landscaping to the grass area on the East side of the Courthouse.

Mr. Berg informed the Board that he will travel to St. Paul this week to meet with legislators regarding the bonding bill for the Correctional Facility.

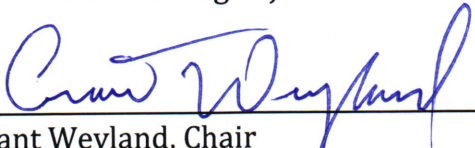
Mr. Berg attended meetings of the Joint Powers Committee, Diversion Authority, Management Committee, and Personnel Issues Committee.

Area legislators will be meeting again with members of the agricultural community concerning tax implications on Saturday, March 14, 2015.

Mr. Berg advised that costs for Red River Regional Dispatch services will be increased for participating entities.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



Grant Weyland, Chair
Clay County Board of Commissioners



Brian C. Berg, County Administrator